

Agency: Commerce, Community and Economic Development**Grants to Named Recipients (AS 37.05.316)****Grant Recipient: KTOO FM & TV****Federal Tax ID: 92-0058054****Project Title:****KTOO FM & TV - Government Transparency Project****State Funding Requested: \$ 100,000**
One-Time Need**House District: Juneau Areawide (3-4)****Brief Project Description:**

This project would enhance efforts for transparency in government with installation of remote control wall-mounted cameras in House and Senate Chambers and/or Committee Rooms. This will increase broadcast capability, and cameras will provide video feeds for statewide television media. This project would be a 50% match with federal funds.

Funding Plan:**Total Cost of Project: \$200,000**

	<u>Funding Secured</u>		<u>Other Pending Requests</u>		<u>Anticipated Future Need</u>	
	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>	<i>Amount</i>	<i>FY</i>
Federal Funds					\$100,000	FY-09
Total					\$100,000	

Detailed Project Description and Justification:

This 50% matching project would provide additional cameras in the House and Senate Chambers and/or Committee Rooms for increased broadcast capability on statewide television media. Cameras would be wall mounted and consist of a television camera and robotic mount that allows the camera to be tilted, panned, or zoomed. This would enable coverage of more session and committee meetings, and increase transparency of government activities to the public. These cameras will enable current mobile cameras to be used in additional committee meeting rooms, as well as increased coverage of Supreme Court, Permanent Fund Board, and/or other relevant government activities. Additional benefits are reduction of the need for operators on the House/Senate floor and the disruption inherent in staffed camera work. Installed cameras would also minimize moving cameras and tripods through crowded hallways and more efficient coverage of governmental activities.

Project Timeline:

Funds will be expended in FY09

Entity Responsible for the Ongoing Operation and Maintenance of this Project:

KTOO FM & TV

Grant Recipient Contact Information:

Contact Name: Bill Legere

Phone Number: 586-1670

Address: 360 Egan Dr, Juneau, AK 99801

Email: bill@ktoo.org

Has this project been through a public review process at the local level and is it a community priority? ☐ Yes ☒ No



March 3, 2008

Senator Kim Elton
State Capitol
Juneau, Alaska 99801

Dear Senator Elton:

Thank you for your consideration of a state capital grant request to allow KTOO to install remote controlled television cameras in select rooms in the Alaska State Capitol. These cameras would provide video feeds for Gavel to Gavel Alaska and other television media.

A grant of \$100,000 should be sufficient to allow us to equip both the House and Senate chambers with multiple cameras and the associated equipment and wiring. We will seek additional federal matching funds to add other locations in the capitol.

Many states have such facilities. I've recently visited state capitol buildings in Michigan, Ohio and Wisconsin, and all three have an extensive network of robotic cameras in their House and Senate chambers and many committee rooms.

There are several advantages of such facilities:

- We could avoid sending TV crews into each meeting
- We would minimize moving cameras and tripods through crowded hallways.
- We would avoid have one or more camera operators on the floor.
- By avoiding moving people and equipment, we could cover more events efficiently.

Typically, these cameras are wall mounted, and consist of the actual television camera and a robotic mount that allows the camera to be panned, tilted or zoomed. In some cases the cameras are controlled by a technician in another location. In other cases, the cameras are tied into to the audio system, so that when a member's microphone is activated, one of the cameras automatically zeros in on the speaker. Usually there are several cameras in each room, to be able to provide video coverage of the front rostrum as well as people speaking from their seats.

In the Alaska Capitol, we would envision installing cameras as follows, in order of priority:

1. **House and Senate Chambers** – 3 cameras in each room (one in the rear to cover the presiding officers, and two in the front of each room to provide shots of Legislators and the visitors galleries.
2. **House and Senate Finance** – 2 cameras in each room (one in the rear and one in the front of each room).

3. **In other meeting rooms**, cameras could be permanently installed or we could provide portable cameras on small tripods. These are fairly inconspicuous, and the advantage is that the operator wouldn't have to crowd into the smaller meeting rooms.

We would expect that the cameras would be controlled by a technician somewhere in the capitol building, either in the back of the room or in some other location. This would allow us to provide a switched pool feed to other television media, so that TV news crews could plug into a box to record their feeds, rather than bringing multiple cameras into the room. All the cameras would be hard wired to a central point in the building, and their signals would be sent by fiber or microwave to the KTOO building for Gavel to Gavel Alaska.

I would be happy to provide more detail or answer any questions.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink that reads "Bill Legere". The signature is written in a cursive, flowing style.

Bill Legere
President and General Manager